PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Patent Application of: | Group Art Unit: 2823 |
|---|---|
| David W. Carlson | Examiner: Brook Kebede |
| Appln. No.: 09/678,414 | RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 23, 2005 |
| Filed: October 2, 2000 | |
| For: METHOD FOR PLANARIZING A THIN FILM | |

### INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed February 23, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as indicated in the following:

**Amendments to the Specification** which begin on page 3 of this paper;

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper;

**Remarks** which begin on page 13 of this paper;

**Appendix A** which begins on page 22 of this paper;

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01 FC:1202         100.00 DA
02 FC:1201         400.00 DA

**Appendix B** which begins on page 23 of this paper;

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it is not possible for a material that readily flows to have a substantially uniform thickness over an uneven surface.

In addition, Doan also teaches that deformable material 30 can be formed from a readily deformable metal (see column 8, lines 19-21 of Doan). A deformable metal, however, can not be read to be non-conductive. Thus, since the Doan reference fails to teach or suggest a layer of second material that is non-conductive, and has a substantially uniform thickness, claim 17 is not anticipated by the Doan reference.

Thus, for the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that all of the claims are in a condition for allowance. Therefore, the Examiner's early re-examination and reconsideration are respectively requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5-20-05            By: _Mark C. Pickering_

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# PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD
### Effective December 8, 2004

09/678414

## CLAIMS AS FILED - PART I

| | (Column 1) | (Column 2) |
|---|---|---|
| TOTAL CLAIMS | | |
| FOR | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA |
| TOTAL CHARGEABLE CLAIMS | minus 20= | * |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS | minus 3 = | * |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT | | ☐ |

| SMALL ENTITY TYPE ☐ | | OR | OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| RATE | FEE | | RATE | FEE |
| BASIC FEE | 150.00 | OR | BASIC FEE | 300.00 |
| X$ 25= | | OR | X$50= | |
| X100= | | OR | X200= | |
| +180= | | OR | +360= | |
| TOTAL | | OR | TOTAL | |

\* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2

## CLAIMS AS AMENDED - PART II

### AMENDMENT A — 5/23/05

| | (Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | | (Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | (Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | * 23 | Minus | ** 21 | = 2 |
| Independent | * 7 | Minus | *** 5 | = 2 |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM | | | | ☐ |

| SMALL ENTITY | | OR | OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE | | RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE |
| X$ 25= | | OR | X$50= | 100.00 |
| X100= | | OR | X200= | 400.00 |
| +180= | | OR | +360= | |
| TOTAL ADDIT. FEE | | OR | TOTAL ADDIT. FEE | 500.00 |

### AMENDMENT B

| | (Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | | (Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | (Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | * | Minus | ** | = |
| Independent | * | Minus | *** | = |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM | | | | ☐ |

| RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE | | RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| X$ 25= | | OR | X$50= | |
| X100= | | OR | X200= | |
| +180= | | OR | +360= | |
| TOTAL ADDIT. FEE | | OR | TOTAL ADDIT. FEE | |

### AMENDMENT C

| | (Column 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | | (Column 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | (Column 3) PRESENT EXTRA |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | * | Minus | ** | = |
| Independent | * | Minus | *** | = |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM | | | | ☐ |

| RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE | | RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| X$ 25= | | OR | X$50= | |
| X100= | | OR | X200= | |
| +180= | | OR | +360= | |